

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00960 111500Z

51

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 SY-04

/084 W

----- 062776

P 111105Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3050

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USS ALWYIN

USS HAWKINS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 960

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS AO

SUBJ: MORE URBAN VIOLENCE IN LUANDA

1. SUMMARY. ON NOV . 10 AT LEAST FIFTY PEOPLE, MOSTLY BLACKS, WERE KILLED AND WELL OVER 100 WOUNDED IN A SERIES OF UNRELATED INCIDENTS THAT SWEEPED THE CITY. THE GOVERNMENT AND ALL THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS HAVE APPEALED FOR CALM AND THE MOVEMENTS DENY ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE VIOLENCE. THE FNLA HAS REPORTEDLY USED ITS TROOPS TO RESTORE ORDER IN SOME AREAS AND IS THREATENING TO BRING IN 10,000 MORE. AT THIS WRITING NOBODY, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT, KNOWS WHO IS FIGHTING WHOM OR WHY. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUANDA 00960 111500Z

2. SUNDAY, NOV. 10 WAS THE WORST DAY YET EXPERIENCED BY LUANDA IN

THE TURBULENT PERIOD SINCE MID-JULY. AS OF MIDNIGHT ON NOV. TEN AT LEAST FIFTY BODIES HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THE CENTRAL HOSPITAL AND IN EXCESS OF A HUNDRED WOUNDED WERE REPORTED, WITH FIGHTING CONTINUING IN THE BLACK AREAS DURING THE NIGHT OF NOV. TEN. NO ONE INCIDENT OR PARTY SET OFF THESE EVENTS, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN NEARLY ALL AREAS OF THE CITY AND DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE CENTRAL DIRECTION OR A COMMON DENOMINATOR. AS REPORTED BY THE PRESS, SOME OF THE INCIDENTS WERE: THE OCCUPANTS OF A TRUCK SHOT AND WOUNDED A CIVILIAN; A HAND GRENADE EXPLODED IN A GHETTO; BLACK YOUTHS STOPPED CARS, BROKE WINDSHIELDS, ROBBED THE OCCUPANTS AND SOMETIMES BURNED THE CARS; A MILITARY TRUCK WAS SHOT AT BY THE TWO BLACKS CIVILIANS; BLACK ATTACKED TWO HOUSES.

3. IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT ROLE THE LIBERATION GROUPS PLAYED IN THE VIOLENCE. IN NEWSPAPER STATEMENTS ALL DISCLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY AND CALLED FOR THEIR ADHERENTS TO BE CALM. THE ONE DEMONSTRABLE CAUSE OF SOME OF THE VIOLENCE WAS THE ARRIVAL OF A UNITA DELEGATION AT THE AIRPORT AT NOON ON NOV. TEN. A CROWD ESTIMATED AT 15,000 MET THE FLIGHT AND MOTORCADES POURED THROUGH THE CITY, APPARENTLY TOUCHING OFF SOME INCIDENTS WITH MPLA. FNLA SENT GROUPS TO THE AIRPORT TO WELCOME UNITA.

4. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS FNLA USED ARMED TROOPS TO HELP RESTORE ORDER IN SOME SECTIONS OF THE CITY, THE SIZE OF THE FNLA FORCES ARE THOUGHT TO BE SMALL BUT THEY APPARENTLY DEMONSTRATED A WILLINGNESS TO BE HARSH ON BLACK LAWBREAKERS.

5. JUNTA PRESIDENT ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO ISSUED A STATEMENT ON THE AFTERNOON OF NOV. TEN CALLING FOR CALM AND PLACING SOME OF THE BLAME FOR THE "LAMENTABLE INCIDENTS" ON UNITA, WHICH, HE SAID, HAD "EXCESSIVE" AUTOMOBILE CARAVANS. HE SAID THE ARMY HAS THE "SUPPORT AND CONFIDENCE" OF THE JUNTA AND IS CARRYING OUT AN "EFFICIENT, AND UNFORTUNATELY LITTLE UNDERSTOOD TASK." THIS IS THE FIRST STATEMENT BY ADMIRAL COUTINHO SINCE THE LATEST WAVE OF VIOLENCE ERUPTED ON NOV. FIVE.

6. WHAT STANDS OUT TO US AS MOST SIGNIFICANT IN ALL THIS IS THE BURGEONING FNLA-UNITA ALLIANCE AND FNLA'S WILLINGNESS TO UYE ITS TROOPS TO PATROL THE CITY. THERE ARE RUMORS THAT FNLA HAS GIVEN THE JUNTA AN ULTIMATUM TO RESTORE CALM OR THE FNLA WILL BRING IN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUANDA 00960 111500Z

10,000 OF ITS OWN TROOPS TO DO SO. THE 10,000 FIGURE COULD BE REACHED ONLY BY AIRLIFTING MEN FROM ZAIRE BUT FNLA COULD QUICKLY MOVE A FEW THOUSAND LIGHTLY ARMED MEN INTO LUANDA FROM ITS NEARBY BASES IN THE DEMBOS IF THE PORTUGUESE ARMY DID NOT RESIST. DEPENDING ON MPLA'S REACTION THIS MOVE COULD LEAD TO A CIVIL WAR IN LUANDA.

7. WE ARE GATHERING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE VIOLENCE AND

WILL REPORT FURTHER.
KILLORAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUANDA00960
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740324-0367
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741154/aaaabttq.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORE URBAN VIOLENCE IN LUANDA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005